

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A system that facilitates ~~to facilitate~~ installation and/or removal of components that includes ~~including~~ at least one shared component, comprising:

a validation engine that provides ~~operative to provide~~ a valid order, the order referentially consistent relative to each of the components; and

an installer that controls ~~operative to control~~ at least one of an install and removal operation of the components based on the valid order and that manipulates ~~operative to effect manipulation of~~ at least one property associated with the at least one shared component to reflect dependency for the at least one shared component according to the installation or removal thereof, the at least one shared component automatically subsumes one or more property associated with previously installed shared components.

2. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, ~~wherein~~ the valid order identifies shared components for installation subsequent to non-shared components.

3. (Currently amended) The system of claim 2, ~~wherein~~ the installer initiates ~~is operative to initiate~~ a method to install each of the components based on the valid order during a part of the installation, the at least one shared component being installed and configured for a selected dependent component during the first part of installation.

4. (Currently amended) The system of claim 3, ~~wherein~~ the method employs ~~is operative to employ~~ a second part of the installation to install the at least one shared component for each dependent component other than the selected dependent component during the second part of the installation.

5. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, ~~wherein~~ the at least one property further comprises a reference count having a value indicative of a number of dependent components associated with the at least one shared component.

6. (Currently amended) The system of claim 5, ~~wherein~~ the installer increases ~~is operative to effect an increase in~~ the value of the reference count for each installation of the at least one shared component.

7. (Currently amended) The system of claim 5, ~~wherein~~ the installer ~~is operative to effect a decrease in~~ decreases the value of the reference count in response to removal of a dependent component that depends on the at least one shared component.

8. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, ~~wherein~~ the at least one property further comprises configuration data that indicates ~~indicative of~~ an operating relationship of the at least one shared component and each installed dependent component associated with the at least one shared component.

9. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, ~~wherein~~ the installer ~~is operative to control~~ controls installation of the at least one shared component, such that a single set of files for the at least one shared component are copied as part of the installation for use by associated dependent components.

10. (Currently amended) The system of claim 9, ~~wherein~~ the at least one shared component has associated metadata that identifies ~~operable to identify~~ the at least one shared component as a shared component.

11. (Currently amended) The system of claim 10, ~~wherein~~ the at least one shared component requires at least one dependent component to perform a substantially useful function.

12. (Currently amended) The system of claim 11, ~~wherein~~ a runtime dependency exists between an installed dependent component and the shared component on which the dependent component depends.

13. (Currently amended) A system that effectuates ~~to facilitate~~ installation of components including at least one shared component, comprising:

a setup manager that ~~which~~ controls installation of the components;

dependency manager that ~~which~~ provides a valid installation order based on metadata associated with at least some of the components, the valid installation order generated to ensure that relative dependencies between the components are resolved prior to installation;

~~wherein~~ the setup manager causes the components to be installed according to the valid installation order, a separate shared installation of the at least one shared component being implemented for each dependent component that depends on the at least one shared component, the at least one shared component preserves properties associated with previously installed shared components.

14. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13, ~~wherein~~ the dependency manager ~~is operative to validate~~ validates a received installation order, which, upon validation of the received installation order, becomes the valid installation order.

15. (Currently amended) The system of claim 14, ~~wherein, if~~ when the received installation order is improper, the dependency manager ~~is operative to create~~ creates the valid installation order.

16. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13, ~~wherein~~ metadata associated with the at least one shared component identifies the at least one shared component as a shared component.

17. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13, ~~wherein~~ the setup manager is ~~operative to initiate~~ initiates a method to install each of the components according to the valid installation order during a first part of the installation, the at least one shared component being installed for a first dependent component during the first part of installation, the method installs ~~being operative to install~~ the at least one shared component for each other dependent component during a second part of the installation.

18. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13, further comprising at least one property associated with an installed instance of the at least one shared component that ~~which~~ reflects dependency for the at least one shared component.

19. (Currently amended) The system of claim 18, ~~wherein~~ the at least one property further comprises a reference count that indicates ~~having a value indicative of~~ a number of dependent components associated with the at least one shared component.

20. (Currently amended) The system of claim 19, ~~wherein~~ the setup manager is ~~operative to controls~~ controls the value of the reference count as a function of each installation and removal of the at least one shared component.

21. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13, ~~wherein~~ the at least one property further comprises configuration data that indicates ~~indicative of~~ an operating relationship of the at least one shared component and each dependent component associated with the shared component.

22. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13, ~~wherein~~ the setup manager is ~~operative to controls~~ controls installation of the at least one shared component based on the valid installation order, such that a single set of program files for the shared component is copied as part of the installation.

23. (Currently amended) A system that facilitates ~~to facilitate~~ installation and/or removal of components including at least one shared component, comprising:

a validation component ~~operative to~~ that receives a list of components to be installed and/or removed and provides a valid order based on setup data, the validation component resolves all relative inter-component conflicts prior to installation and/or removal of components, the list of components to be installed and/or removed organized in an invalid order; and

a setup engine ~~operative to~~ that initiates installation of each of the components according to the valid order during a first part of the installation, the shared component being installed for a first dependent component during the first part of installation, the shared component being installed for each other dependent component during a second part of the installation separate from the first part, the shared component being installed automatically retains a property associated with a previously installed shared component.

24. (Currently amended) A system that facilitates ~~to facilitate~~ installation and/or removal of components including at least one shared component, comprising:

a dependency manager ~~that operative to~~ receives a list of components to be installed and/or removed and provides a valid order based on setup data, the validation component resolves all relative inter-component conflicts prior to installation and/or removal of the components, the list of components to be installed and/or removed organized in a random order; [[and]]

a setup engine ~~that operative to~~ initiates installation of each of the components according to the valid order during a first part of the installation, the shared component being installed for a first dependent component during the first part of installation, the shared component being installed for each other dependent component during a second part of the installation, which is subsequent to the first part; the shared component being installed for the first dependent component acquires properties associated with a shared component previously installed and associated with the first dependent component, and

wherein a setup manager is ~~operative to effect manipulation that~~ manipulates ~~of~~ at least one property associated with the at least one shared component to reflect dependency characteristics of the at least one shared component as a function of at least one of installation of the shared component and removal of a dependent component that depends on the at least one shared component.

25. (Currently amended) A system ~~that effectuates to facilitate~~ installation and/or removal of components including at least one shared component, comprising:

means for providing a valid order for the components, the valid order referentially consistent relative to each of the components;

means for controlling installation of the components based on the valid order; and

means for manipulating at least one property associated with the at least one shared component to reflect dependency for the at least one shared component based on at least one installation of the shared component and removal of a dependent component that depends on the at least one shared component, prior to replacement of a currently installed shared component with the at least one shared component, the at least one shared component automatically acquires previously affixed properties associated with the currently installed shared component.

26. (Currently amended) A method ~~for to facilitate~~ installing and/or removing components including at least one shared component, the method comprising:

providing a valid order that is consistent relative to each of the components;

installing each of the plurality of components based on the valid order; and

modifying at least one property associated with the at least one shared component to reflect dependency characteristics of the at least one shared component relative dependent components that utilize ~~operative to use~~ the at least one shared component, the at least one shared component acquires existing properties of shared components that the at least one shared component supercedes on installation.

27. (Currently amended) The method of claim 26, wherein the at least one property further comprises a reference count having a value indicative of a number of dependent components that depend on the at least one shared component.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, further comprising controlling the value of the reference count in response to each installation of the at least one shared component and removal of a dependent component that depends on the at least one shared component.

29. (Original) The method of claim 26, further comprising effecting installation of each of the components during a first part of installation according to the valid order, the shared component being installed for a first dependent component during the first part of the installation.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29, further comprising effecting installation of the shared component for each other dependent component that depends on the shared component during a second part of the installation, which is separate from the first part.

31. (Currently amended) A method to facilitate installing and/or removing components including at least one shared component, the method comprising:

providing a valid order referentially consistent relative to each of the installed and/or removed components;

effecting installation of each of the components during a first part of installation according to the valid order, the shared component being installed for a first dependent component during the first part of the installation;

effecting installation of the shared component for each other dependent component during a second part of the installation separate from the first part, the shared component acquires one or more extant properties associated with a shared component made obsolete and removed by installation of the shared component.